

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2287

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO GW, SP

SUBJ: VISIT OF FRG FONMIN GENSCHER TO SPAIN

1. SUMMARY: INITIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY GENSCHER AND SPANISH FONMIN CORTINA REFER TO STRENGTHENING OF BILATERAL TIES AND SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN DEFENSE. GENSCHER REFERRED EXPLICITLY TO DESIRABILITY OF SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND CORTINA REFERRED TO "DEFENSIVE FACILITIES WHICH COULD BE CONCEDED MUTUALLY" TO STRENGTHEN COMMON DEFENSE. GENSCHER WAS RECEIVED BY
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FRANCO AND PREMIER ARIAS AND IS SCHEDULED TO SEE PRINCE

JUAN CARLOS AND TO RECEIVE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF TOLERATED SPANISH OPPOSITION. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG FONMIN GENSCHER ARRIVED APRIL 3 ON TWO-DAY VISIT TO SPAIN, FOLLOWING PATTERN OF RECIPROCAL FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS BETWEEN FRG AND SPAIN INITIATED IN 1970. GENSCHER IS FIRST EUROPEAN FONMIN TO VISIT SPAIN OFFICIALLY SINCE ASSASSINATION OF CARRERO BLANCO AND APPOINTMENT OF ARIAS NAVARRO AS PREMIER IN JAN 1974.

3. IN HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT GENSCHER SAID OBJECT OF HIS VISIT WAS NOT ONLY TO DEEPEN BILATERAL RELATIONS BUT ALSO SPAIN'S MULTILATERAL RELATIONS WITHIN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. SECONDLY, HE SAID, AS FRG WAS MEMBER OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, IT SOUGHT TO HAVE SPAIN DRAW CLOSER IN MILITARY SENSE TO EUROPE AND ALLIANCE. IN AFTER-DINNER STATEMENT APRIL 3 GENSCHER REFERRED TO DEVELOPMENTS IN MEDITERRANEAN AND IBERIAN PENINSULA AND THEIR IMPORTANCE TO EUROPE WHICH IN TURN GAVE SPAIN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY WITH RESPECT TO SECURITY BECAUSE OF ITS GEOPOLITICAL LOCATION. AFTER RECALLING PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS BY HIS PREDECESSORS, HE SAID FRG SOUGHT TO HAVE SPAIN DRAW CLOSER TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. OVER LONG TERM, HE NOTED, POLITICAL OBJECTIVES WERE MORE IMPORTANT WHEREBY SPAIN WOULD OCCUPY ITS DUE PLACE IN EUROPE. HE MENTIONED THAT AGREEMENT EXISTED BETWEEN CORTINA AND HIMSELF OVER FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS.

4. IN HIS RESPONSE TO GENSCHER'S AFTER-DINNER STATEMENT, FONMIN CORTINA, AFTER REFERRING TO EXCELLENT BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH FRG, SAID SPAIN COULD COUNT ON BONN TO SUPPORT SPAIN'S PARTICIPATION IN CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE WHICH WOULD BE INCOMPLETE WERE SPAIN TO BE ABSENT. TURNING TO DEFENSE MATTERS, CORTINA SAID EUROPEAN DEFENSE SYSTEM WOULD LACK NECESSARY DEFICIENCY WITHOUT SPANISH CONTRIBUTION. IT WAS NECESSARY, THEREFORE, THAT "AN APPROPRIATE RELATION EXISTED BETWEEN THE COMPONENTS OF THIS SYSTEM AND SPAIN FOR WHICH PURPOSE FRG ATTITUDE COULD BE DECISIVE. CONSIDERING THE DEFENSE FACILITIES WHICH COULD BE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON IN THE FUTURE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE COMMON SECURITY, IT WOULD BE INDISPENSABLE THAT THIS RELATION BE WELL DEFINED." AT CONCLUSION OF HIS STATEMENT CORTINA SAID CONFIDENTIAL

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IT WAS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE "NATIONAL PECULIARITIES" CONSISTENT WITH FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF EACH STATE TO ORGANIZE ITSELF FREELY, THEREBY PRESERVING DIVERSITY IN UNITY, A PERMANENT CHARACTERISTIC OF EUROPE.

5. GENSCHER WAS RECEIVED BY FRANCO AND PREMIER ARIAS APRIL 3 AND IS SCHEDULED TO SEE PRINCE JUAN CARLOS APRIL 4. (ACCORDING TO FRG EMBASSY POL COUNSELOR, FRANCO

SHOWED MUCH INTEREST IN DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP WITH FRG.)
THERE HAS BEEN MUCH PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT GENSCHER'S
PLANS TO SEE LEADING FIGURES IN SPANISH OPPOSITION.
POLITICIANS AND OBSERVERS ARE WELL AWARE THAT FORMER
FONMIN SCHEEL, DURING VISIT TO MADRID IN 1970, SAW FOUR
OPPOSITION LEADERS (FORMER AMBASSADOR AREILZA, FORMER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION RUIZ GIMENEZ, SOCIALIST LEADER
TIERNO GALVAN, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHIST JOAQUIN
SATRUSTEGUI). FRG EMBASSY HAS INSISTED ON HAVING
GENSCHER RECEIVE SOME MEMBERS OF LEAST TOLERATED OP-
POSITION AND HAS INFORMED US THAT HE WILL SEE AREILZA,
SILVA MUNOZ (FORMER MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND
ORGANIZER OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATION GROUPING SOME CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRATS), CANTARERO DEL CASTILLO (LEADER OF POLITICAL
ASSOCIATION CALLED SPANISH SOCIAL REFORM), AND FORMER INI
HEAD FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ. TIERNO GALVAN NOT INCLUDED AMONG
THOSE TO SEE GENSCHER INASMUCH AS HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS
HAVE JOINED "DEMOCRATIC JUNTA" SPONSORED BY SPANISH COM-
MUNIST PARTY. NEITHER SPANIARDS NOR GERMANS WOULD SEEM
TO HAVE INTEREST IN INCLUDING HIM AMONG THOSE TO SEE FRG
FONMIN.
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